(b) whether Government had considered, consultant bid evaluation, the availability of expertise oninvestment matters, within Government like RBI, SEBI etc. and other financial institutions; and

(c) if so, whether Government discovered that it did not have the required expertise in-house?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Board of Trustees, Employees, Provident Fund had invited open bids through advertisements in the leading news papers, for one time study on various aspects relating to investment management of EPFO funds. Final decision was taken by CBT, EPF after conducting objective comparative analysis of various contenders.

Enterprises in Unorganised/Informal Sector

1766. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are thinking of setting up of National Commission to suggest measures to promote enterprises in the unorganized and informal sectors; and

(b) if so, the mandate proposed to be given to the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Government has constituted the National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector on 20.09.2004 to recommend measures considered necessary for bringing about improvement in the productivity of these enterprises, generation of large scale employment opportunities on a sustainable basis, enhancing the competitiveness of the sector in the emerging global environment, linkage of the sector with institutional framework in areas such as credit, raw material, infrastructure, technology upgradation, marketing and formulation of suitable arrangements for skill development. The strategy for addressing the problems of urban unemployment is covered by the terms of reference formulated for the Commission.